



The President's Daily Brief

6 March 1973

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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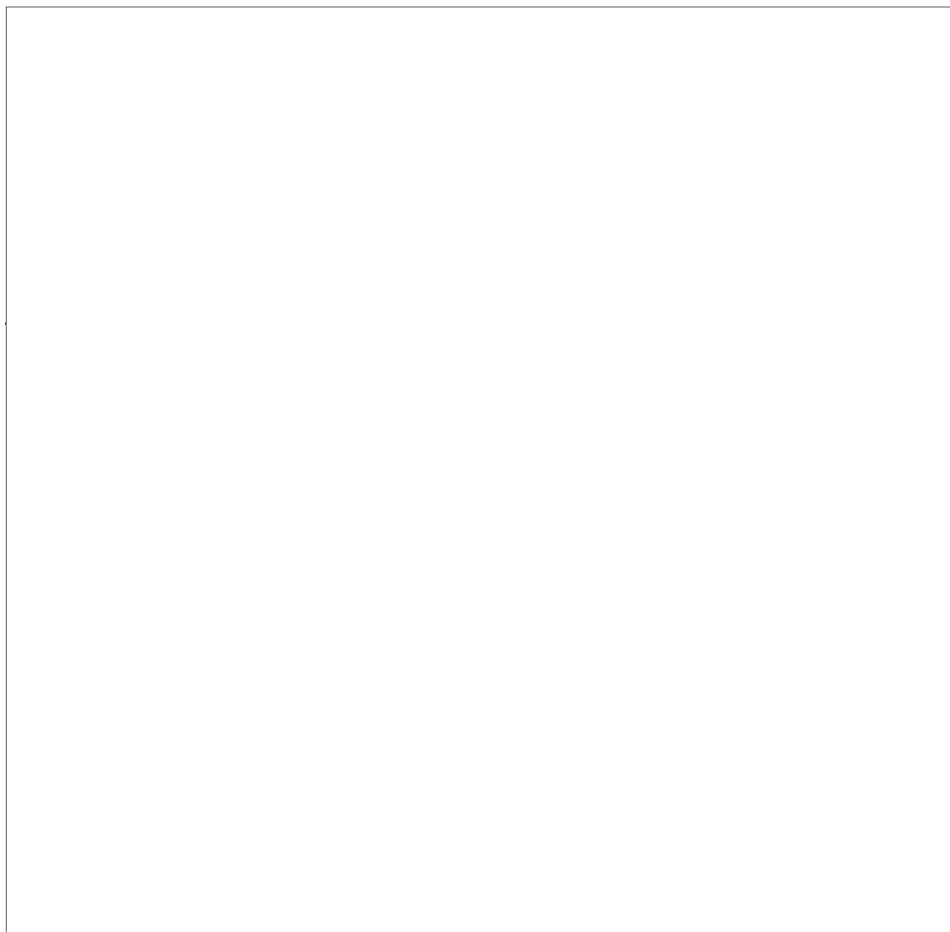
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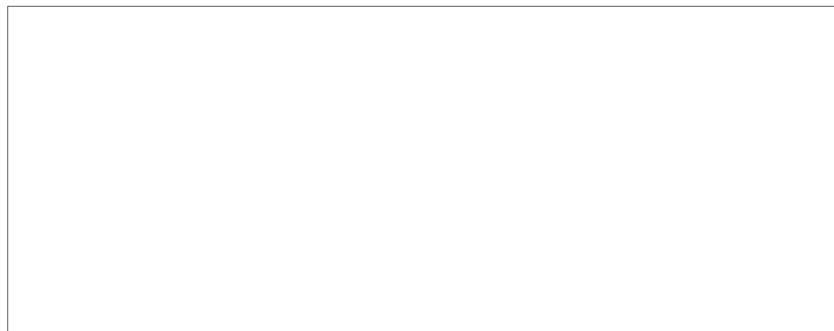
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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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The dollar strengthened yesterday in unofficial trading, while European finance ministers discussed the problems of a joint float. (Page 1)

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☐ North Vietnam ☐
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Final Chilean election returns confirm that President Allende's coalition has gained several congressional seats. (Page 4)

In Turkey, General Faruk Gurler has taken the first step toward being elected president next week. (Page 4)

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INTERNATIONAL MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS

The dollar strengthened world-wide yesterday in unofficial interbank trading. The dollar showed its greatest strength relative to the pound and Swiss franc. The pound closed down 2 percent from Friday while the Swiss franc was off 2.6 percent.

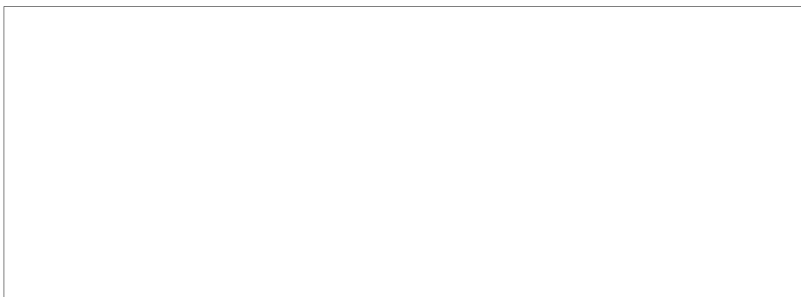
Yesterday the EC finance ministers held preliminary discussions on the problems of a joint float and called for a meeting on Friday of the Group of Ten and representatives from the smaller EC countries. At Friday's meeting the French hope to convince the US that the present rate structure should be defended. Failing this, they may still agree to support a joint EC float, assuming the UK also agrees.

The West Germans hope that agreement can be reached on a joint EC float, believing that otherwise they may be forced to float independently. The Germans nevertheless regard a joint US-European solution as politically and psychologically important.

The Tokyo foreign exchange market remains closed and probably will not reopen until the European markets do.

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VIETNAM

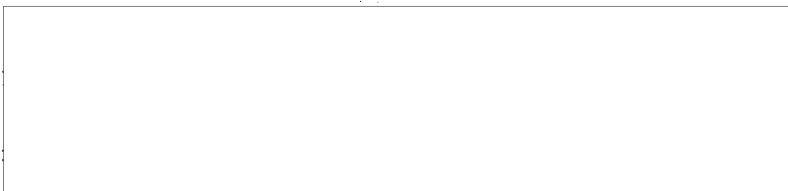


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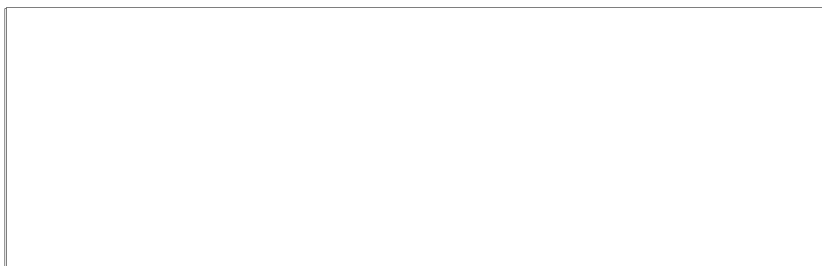
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President Thieu on 3 March directed the Joint General Staff to order all military commanders to reduce the level of fighting throughout the country and generally "to stop attacking the Communists." Thieu had earlier issued orders to his province chiefs to bar all "violent" demonstrations against Communist truce teams. The President has also commissioned a study on the effect of a partial demobilization of regular army troops over the next nine months.

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EGYPT-LIBYA

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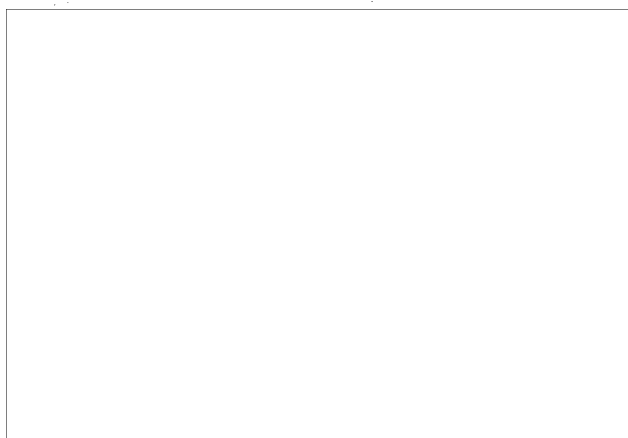
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NOTES

Chile: Final elections confirm that President Allende won a major psychological victory in last Sunday's elections. According to the results announced last night, his Popular Unity coalition won 43.4 percent of the vote--well above the 40 percent he said would constitute an "absolute victory"--and whittled several seats from the opposition's majorities in both houses of Congress. General Prats apparently intends to keep the armed forces in the cabinet, and there are signs that he may renew efforts to get the Christian Democrats into an exploratory "dialogue" with the government in an effort to ease political tensions.

Turkey: General Faruk Gurler resigned as chief of the general staff yesterday afternoon in the first in a series of moves enabling him to become president. To be eligible for the presidency, Gurler must be a member of parliament; the defense minister has resigned from the Senate, providing a vacancy to which Gurler is expected to be named by incumbent president Cevdet Sunay. Parliament's election of Gurler as president on 13 March seems assured.

Romania: Romania has become the first Warsaw Pact country to buy US passenger aircraft. A contract for the purchase of three Boeing 707-320C long-range jet airliners, spare parts, and spare engines, valued at \$45 million was signed last week. One of the aircraft will be configured for VIP service.

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